Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01978 211554Z
ACTION SS-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7521

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1978

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FOR S/S DAVID ANDERSON ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCON WB
SUBJECT: PROPOSED PARTICIPATION BY MRS. VANCE IN THE CONVENTION OF FEDERATION OF GERMAN-AMERICAN CLUBS

1. I PASSED ALONG TO HELEN SEMLER YOUR REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONTEMPLATED ROLE OF MRS. VANCE IN THE FORTHCOMING CONENTION OF THE FEDERATION OF GERMAN-AMERICAN CLUBS IN BERLIN. I HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING IN RESPONSE. QUOTE

AS MRS. VANCE WISHES TO LIMIT HER PARTICIPATION IN THE CONVENTION TO ONE DAY ONLY, WE SUGGEST SHE BE THE MAIN SPEAKER AT THE LUNCHEON ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH AT 12:30 TO BE HELD AT REICHSTAG AND HOSTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REICHSTAG. IF SHE PREFERS TO SPEAK ON US TURF, THE OTHER CHOICE WOULD BE THE LUNCHEON ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH AT THE US OFFICERS CLUB (HARNACK HOUSE). THERE IS NOTHING ON THURSDAY, EXCEPT AN EVENING RECEPTION FOR THE EARLY ARRIVERS.

THE AUDIENCE WILL BE EVENLY DIVIDED BETWEEN GERMANS AND AMERICANS, WITH ENGLISH USED AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE. (IF
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01978 211554Z

POSSIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE MRS. VANCE'S SPEECH AHEAD OF TIME FOR WRITTEN TRANSLATION.) THERE WILL ALSO BE A 60/40 SPLIT, WITH WOMEN PREDOMINATING. NOTWITHSTANDING THIS, I WOULD LIKE MRS. VANCE TO ADDRESS HERSELF TO THE TOPIC OF THE AMERICAN WOMAN ABROAD. THE TOPIC IS VERY BROAD AND MRS. VANCE SHOULD HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY OF NARROWING THE TOPIC ACCORDING TO HER WISHES. IF MRS. VANCE PREFERS TO OPT FOR A MORE POLITICALLY

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

ORIENTED TOPIC, SHE MAY TACKLE THE QUESTION OF US FOREIGN SERVICE GOALS UNDER THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION. WE WOULD GREATLY WELCOME ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

THE THEME OF THE CONVENTION IS GERMAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP, SYMBOLIZED BY THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AIRLIFT. HOWEVER, MUCH WILL BE SAID ABOUT THAT IN THE ADDRESS OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FRO MRS. VANCE'S REPLY IN ORDER TO COMPLETE OUR PLANNING. AS SOON AS I HAVE MRS. VANCE'S DECISION, I WILL FORWARD THE COMPLETE PROGRAM. AT PRESENT, A RECEPTION IS FORESEEN FOR THURSDAY AND ANOTHER RECEPTION IS PLANNED FOR FRIDAY EVENING. THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, THE HONORABLE JOHN L. STETSON, WILL BE THE SPEAKER AT THE FRIDAY NIGHT EVENT.

THE REST OF MRS. VANCE'S ITINERARY WILL DEPEND ENTIRELY ON HER WISHES. END QUOTE.

2. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED ANY FURTHER INFORMATION.
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Sheryl P. Walter
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EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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